

# City of Wylie Public Information Office

### PRESS RELEASE

#### For Immediate Release

www.wylietexas.gov

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### Founders Park Public Art Project Approved

"Catch" a Stone Sculpture by Madeline Wiener Selected

Wylie, TX, Tuesday, May 27, 2010 – Nationally known sculptor Madeline Wiener was selected during the May 25 City Council meeting to design an original work of art to be installed in Founders Park, currently under renovation and expansion. The commissioned piece "Catch", valued at \$40,000, is part of the City's program that dedicates 1% of capital improvement project costs to Public Art.

"Catch will stir the imagination of children and adults," said Councilwoman and Public Arts Advisory Board member Kathy Spillyards. "The piece is physically and visually interactive...evoking a feeling of movement...the ideal installation for an active community gathering place that hosts thousands of sports league participants and visitors every week."

The design consists of two figures carved out of solid, dolomitic limestone – a thrower and a catcher. The catcher will stand more than 6 feet tall, including the 18-inch base, and measure 6 feet in length. The thrower measures more than 6 feet tall, including the base, and 5 feet in length.

"In viewing the proposed area for the sculptures, I immediately felt the excitement of going to a sporting event," said Wiener. "It is always my desire through my work to engage viewers and entice them to come close and experience my stone sculptures."

"Catch" will be the focal point of the main concession/restroom/pavilion area currently under construction. The 26-foot diameter circular art space will be surrounded by crushed granite and native grasses, providing an inviting space for interaction with the figures and a place to relax on the oversized concrete bases.

Incorporated in 1887, the City of Wylie is located just 24 miles from downtown Dallas in Collin, Dallas and Rockwall Counties. Possessing an outstanding school district, a low crime rate, an ISO #1 rating and an expanding business climate, Wylie (population 42,000) is one of the fastest growing communities in the State of Texas with a 170% increase since 2000.



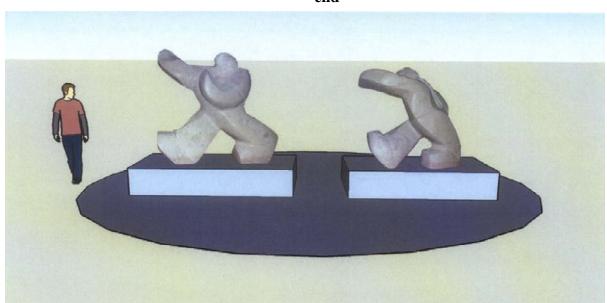
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Contemporary abstract figures in stone has been Wiener's main focus since studying at The New York School of Visual Arts from 1968-1974. Founder/director of The Marble Institute of Colorado, Wiener has remained intent on finding new and expressive ways to create her abstract figurative stone sculptures. Working trips to far-away places like Scotland and India have provided the opportunity to create site-specific, monumental public installations and fulfill Wiener's dream of using her art to foster cultural exchange.

More of Wiener's work and biography can be viewed at <a href="www.madelinewiener.com">www.madelinewiener.com</a>. Founders park construction is scheduled to be completed late 2010.



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